

Service Area Plan

Department of Social Services

TANF Day Care (45214)

Service Area Background Information

Service Area Description

To provide child care assistance to TANF families who are working or engaged in work activities. Transitional Child Care assistance is also provided to eligible post-TANF families who are working. Child care subsidies are provided through the local departments of social services.

Service Area Alignment to Missio

By assisting TANF families with child care assistance, we are helping them rise above poverty, become more self-sufficient, shape strong futures for themselves and contribute towards their communities through work.

Service Area Statutory Authority

Federal Legal Basis - The Child Care Development Block Grant (Public Law 101-508) Hunger Prevention Act of 1988

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, amended PL 101-508 to become the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF); legislation which establishes the work requirements associated with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant and establishes the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care, serving TANF and low-income families through child care subsidies.

Federal Regulation – 45 CFR, Parts 98 & 99, which set the regulations for the state Lead Agency to administer the CCDF

State legal Basis - §§ 63.2-611 and 63.2-616 of the Code of Virginia, which focuses on the Virginia Independence Program (VIP) and the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW) Program.

Service Area Customer Base

Customer(s)	Served	Potential
General Public (potential unlimited)	62,538	0
Local Departments of Social Services	120	120
Providers (Child Care Providers) (potential unlimited)	10,300	0
TANF related children (potential unlimited)	28,217	0
TANF related families (potential unlimited)	15,875	0

Anticipated Changes In Service Area Customer Bas

There are no anticipated changes in the customer base.

Service Area Partners

Community Action Agencies

Local Departments of Social Services

State agencies

Virginia Institute for Social Services Training Activities (VISSTA)

Service Area Products and Services

- Support of organizations serving communities
- Services to promote family stability
- Economic assistance to low income facilities/individuals or nutrition, child care, health care eligibility, and financial assistance to low income families/individuals
- Services that promote self-sufficiency

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Factors Impacting Service Area Products and Services

The need for greater quality in the child care industry continues to increase. Recent research has highlighted that the earliest years of a child's life are the most important for healthy development, and becoming ready to succeed in school and later life. In Virginia, Department of Education test scores for kindergarten children indicate the one in five children are not ready for school. Approximately 65% of Virginia's children aged five and under are in some form of child care, but there are many types of care and varying levels of quality available for families. Likewise, the cost of child care can be more than the cost of a year of college tuition, making child care a major expense for low-income families. The Department has to balance investments in increasing overall quality of child care with the need to increase subsidies for low-income families.

Anticipated Changes To Service Area Products and Service

The federal legislation that guides CCDF is included in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, which was slated for re-authorization in 2002. At some point, re-authorization will occur. The proposed legislation includes increased mandates for increased work activities for more TANF families, which will require more investment in child care subsidies. This will lower the amount of funding available for other eligible low-income families, who, by definition, are already at risk of becoming dependent upon TANF. Re-authorization will also require increased investment in the quality of child care, therefore exacerbating the tension between investments in child care subsidies and quality.

Service Area Financial Summary

Funding for the TANF Day Care program comes from general funds (44.4%) and federal funds (55.6%). The federal funds come from the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) - Mandatory and Matching funds.

	<u>Fiscal Year 2007</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2008</u>	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
Base Budget	\$18,773,333	\$23,466,667	\$18,773,333	\$23,466,667
Changes To Base	\$6,760,746	\$5,260,746	\$7,992,283	\$6,742,283
SERVICE AREA TOTAL	\$25,534,079	\$28,727,413	\$26,765,616	\$30,208,950

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Service Area Objectives, Measures, and Strategies

Objective 45214.01

Increase the number of eligible TANF children who receive child care assistance

Within the TANF population, there are families who are not employed or participating in work activities, sometimes due to a lack of child care. This objective will ensure a focus on meeting the need for child care to support the required work activities of VIEW, as well as promote child care for TANF families not required to participate in VIEW.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Enhance the independence, well-being and personal responsibility of customers
(Providing child care for all TANF children who need it is strategically aligned with the mission of the agency. It also supports the Council on Virginia's Future long term objective of "Inspire and support Virginians toward healthy lives and strong, resilient families". It is also mandated in the Code of Virginia)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

- **Measure 45214.01.01**

TANF children who receive child care subsidies

Measure Type: Output

Measure Frequency: Quarterly

Measure Baseline: 28,217

Measure Target: 1% increase per year

Measure Source and Calculation:

The data will be captured through the Child Care Interim System, in which local departments report client and case specific expenditures each month. An unduplicated count of children by program area can be calculated.

Objective 45214.01 Has the Following Strategies:

- Secure resources and identify process efficiencies to handle caseload growth.
- Leverage community partnerships in outreach.
- Develop and implement a marketing plan.